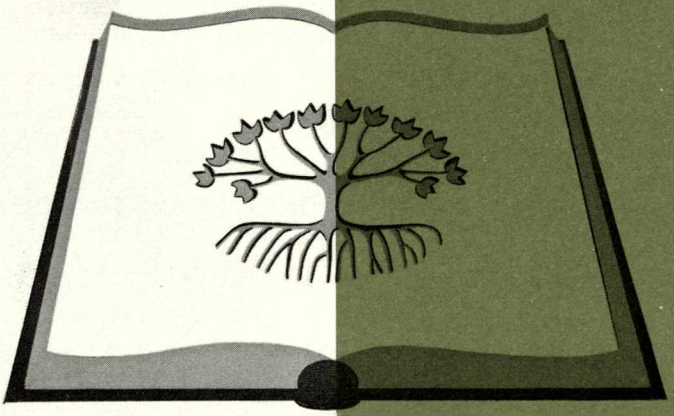
Ind. Libraries 4/64



PAMPHLET FILE

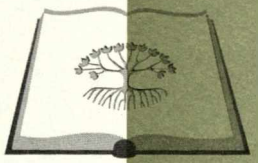
Emeline Fairbanks Mem. Library

INDIANA ROOM

The Elkhart Public Library

Elkhart, Indiana

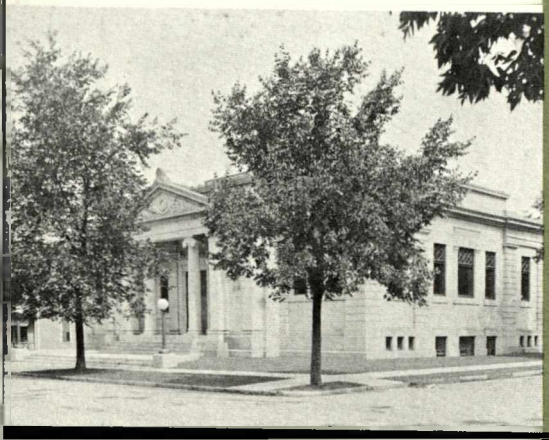
Dedication March 31, 1963



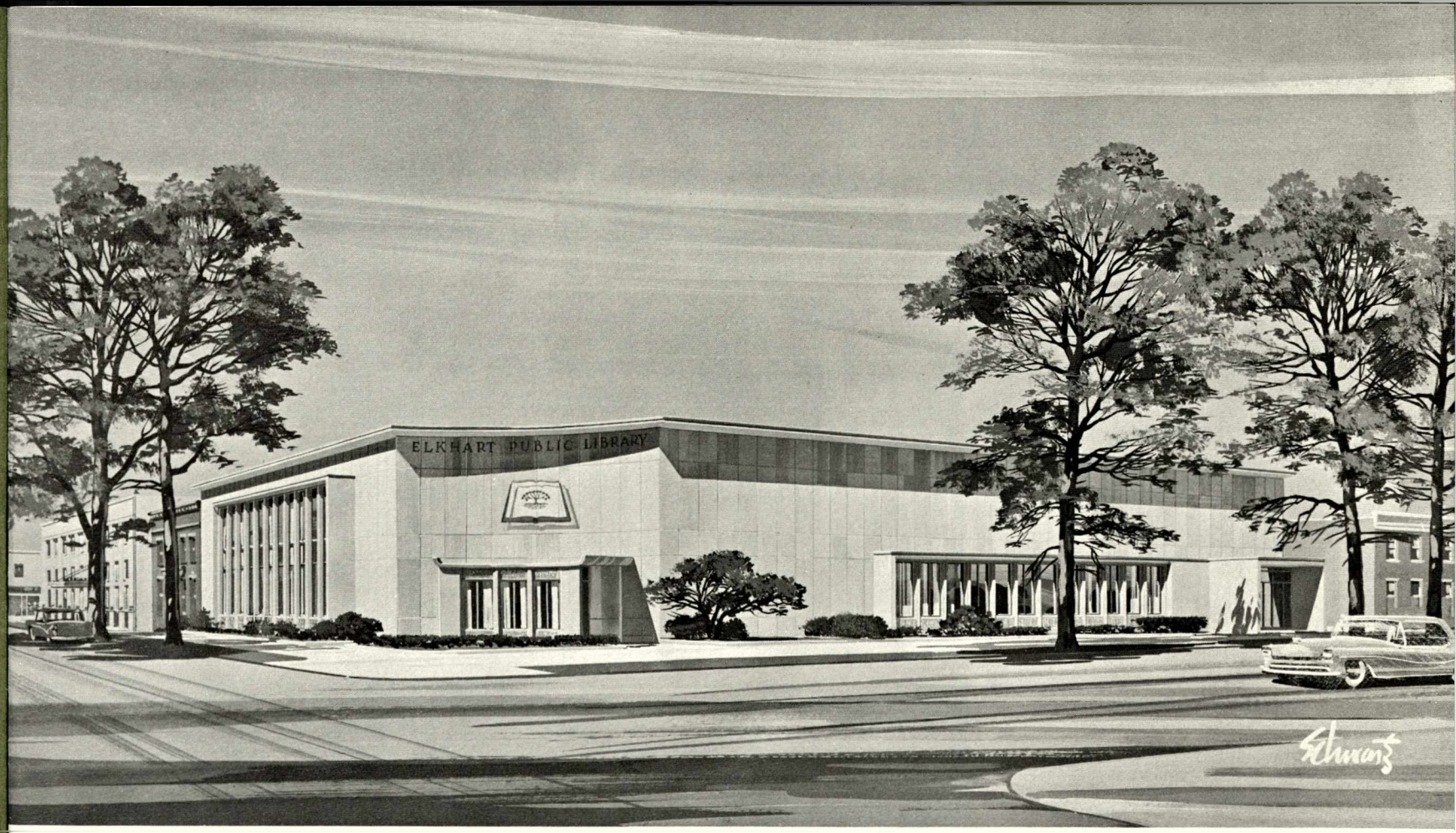
Over the entrance of the new library is this symbolic "Tree of Knowledge," conceived by Elkhart artist Ted Drake as commissioned by Ross Martin.

The new Elkhart Public Library is a gift to the citizens of Elkhart from the Martin Foundation. The Foundation was established by Ross Martin, now treasurer and former president of NIBCO Inc., and by Mrs. Martin, a member of the Elkhart Library Board of Trustees since 1943. Mr. and Mrs. Martin have long been active in civic and charitable work. The Foundation provided funds for the library building. The site, furniture and equipment were purchased by the people of Elkhart through a bond issue and funds in the library budget.

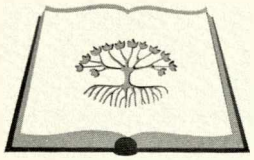
From an overcrowded, inadequate building where books, readers and staff work areas have competed for the same space, this change to a spacious, air-conditioned modern building brings a new concept of libraries to Elkhart.



ELKHART'S FIRST LIBRARY, the Carnegie Public Library, opened in 1903, the same year that the Wright brothers achieved motorized flight. Two of Elkhart's leading citizens at the turn of the century, Andrew H. Beardsley and George B. Pratt, secured funds from Andrew Carnegie to build the library.



Of modern, functional design, the new library is a two-story steel and cement block structure with a facing of buff-colored Indiana limestone and a stone cornice. It contains over 45,000 square feet of floor space, including basement storage, mechanical equipment rooms, a drive-through garage, and some 3,800 square feet for future expansion on the second floor.



How Your Library Can Serve You

Where there is no vision, the people perish.

THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

The public library, your treasure house of knowledge, gathers wisdom of all the ages. Here are man's efforts to express his thoughts and aspirations in the printed word.

A systematic arrangement of this heritage and your own freedom to seek it out are the special province of the public library. To enter its doors, you may be rich or poor, of any race or creed. Your credential is only a curiosity to learn.

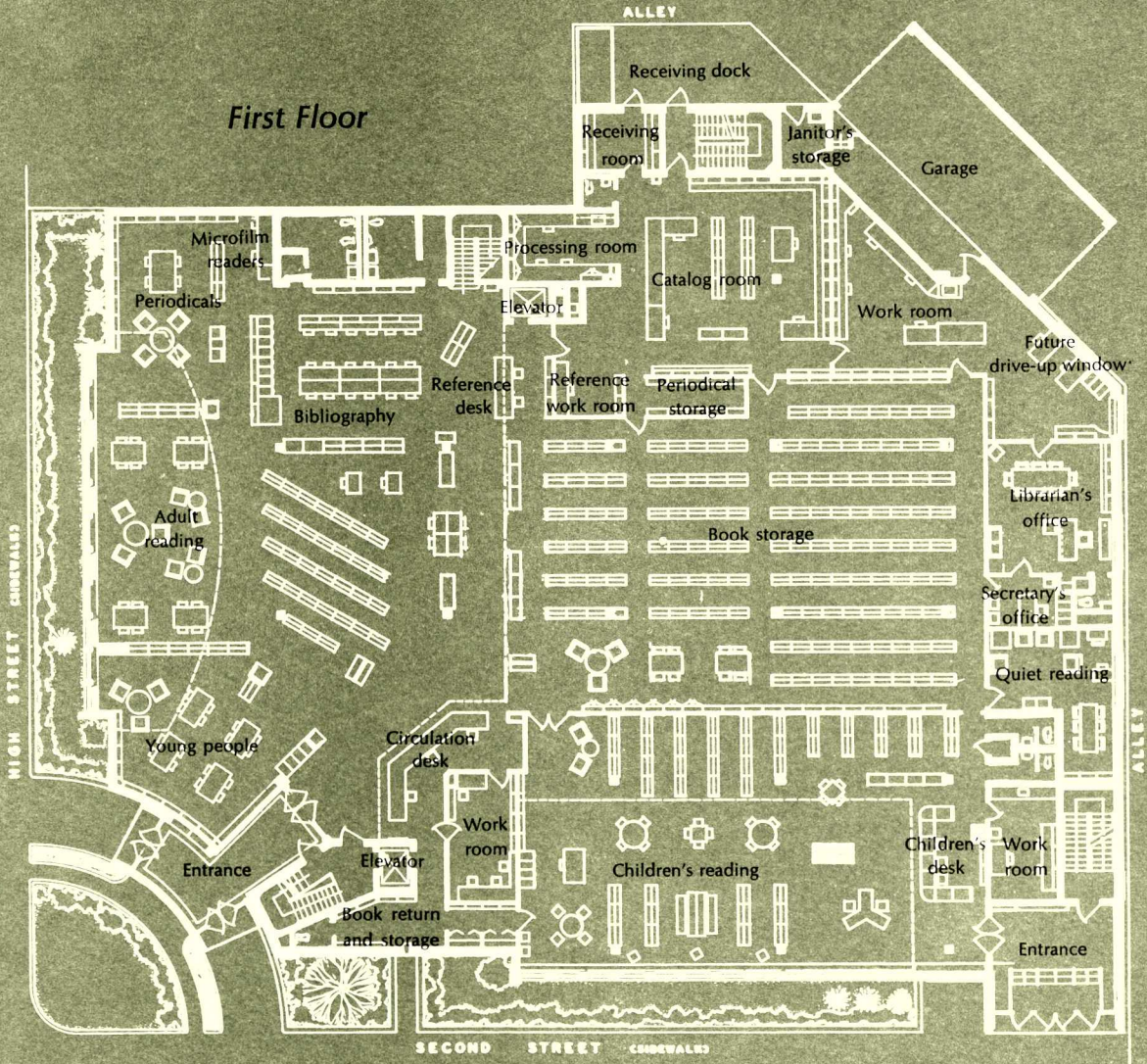
A city's educational and cultural level can be assessed by the quality of service its citizens demand from their public library and by that library's efforts to anticipate those demands.

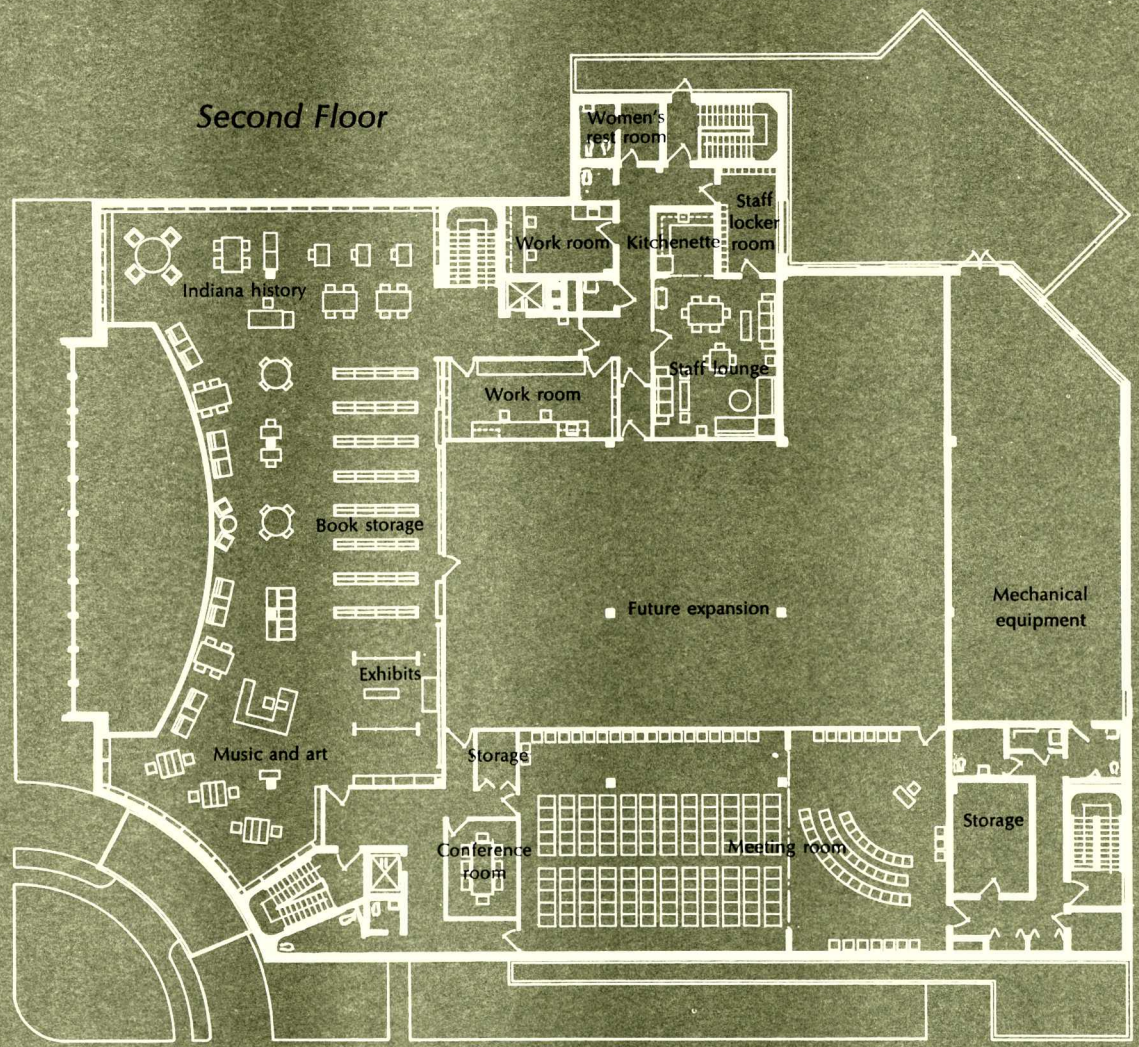
To a child, the public library is a doorway to the world about him. To an adult, it is a means for continuing education and a source for spiritual refreshment.

A SWEEPING VIEW
of the two floors of the library show both the building's aesthetic and planned-for-use beauty.

THE CIRCULATION DESK
is of handsome teakwood matched inlay. The design in the flooring reads "Books are the lamps that never go out."

First Floor


ALLEY
Receiving dock
Receiving room
Janitor's storage
Garage
Microfilm readers
Processing room
Catalog room
Periodicals
Elevator
Work room
Future drive-up window
Reference desk
Reference work room
Periodical storage
Bibliography
Librarian's office
Adult reading
Book storage
Secretary's office
Quiet reading
HIGH STREET (SIDEWALK)
ALLEY
Young people
Circulation desk
Work room
Entrance
Elevator
Children's reading
Children's desk
Work room
Book return and storage
Entrance
SECOND STREET (SIDEWALK)


Second Floor
Women's rest room
Staff locker room
Work room
Kitchenette
Indiana history
Staff lounge
Work room
Book storage
Future expansion
Mechanical equipment
Exhibits
Music and art
Storage
Storage
Conference room
Meeting room

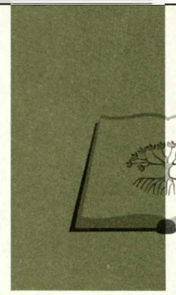
MAIN FIRST FLOOR AREA
h comfortable chairs and tables convenient to
rby book stacks.

WELL-LIGHTED BOOK STACKS
make it easy to find the book you want.

MUSIC LISTENING AREA
is one of the special interest centers on the mezzanine. This floor also has a check-out desk.

COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM
This large auditorium, which can seat two hundred, is open to public use.

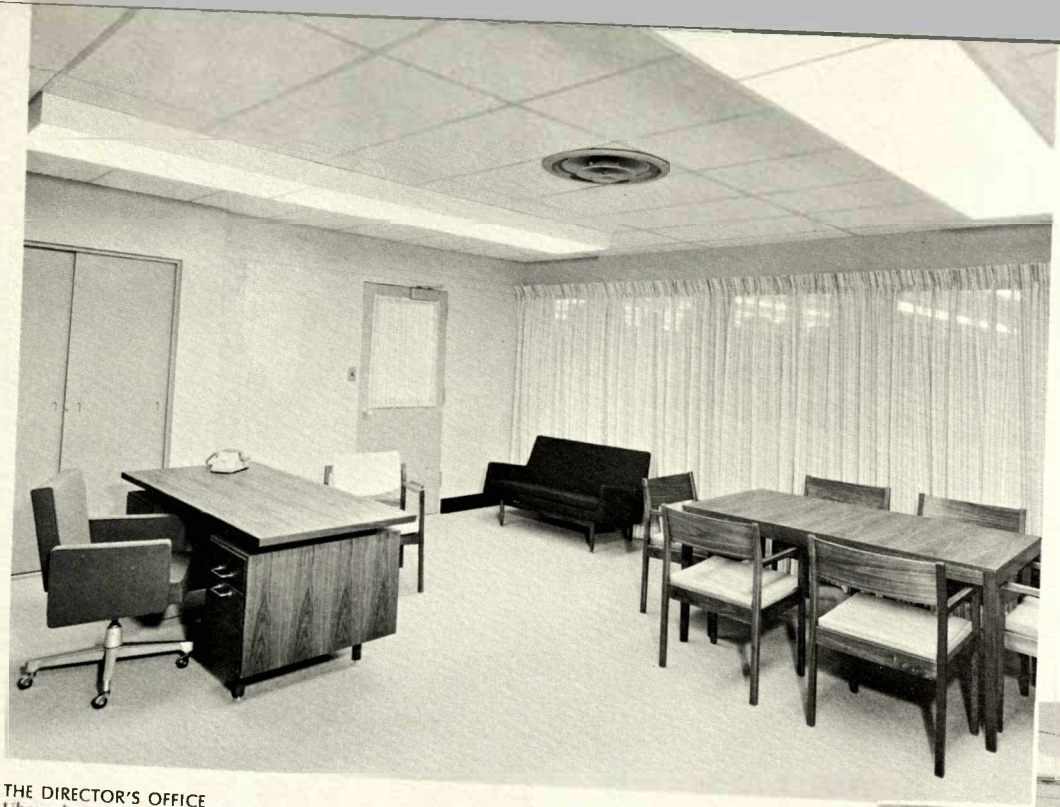
THE ADULT READING ROOM
furnished by the Directors of the First National Bank of Elkhart is an inviting haven for book lovers.



THE CHILDREN'S ENTRANCE
has this lovely mural by Ted Drake. The plaque is a history of civilization by Ross Martin, drawn from the many books he has read.

THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT
is designed to introduce the pleasures of books early in life.

CHILDREN WILL FIND
much to capture their attention in the cessible books. Furniture is scaled to bodies.



THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
Library business is conducted from this handsome administration office.

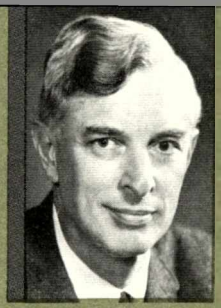
Behind the Scenes

MENDING ROOM
Worn books are mended in this spacious work room. Similarly equipped rooms are provided for other specialized library work.

THE STAFF LOUNGE
Librarians relax in this comfortable lounge which has its own efficient kitchen.

ROOM TO GROW
The basement is one of several areas available for expansion of library facilities. Bound and unbound periodicals are stacked in these bins.

To Build A Library



J. Russell Bailey, A.I.A.

The plans for the new building were drawn by J. Russell Bailey, A.I.A., of Orange, Virginia. A graduate of the University of Michigan College of Architecture, he did fellowship work in advanced architectural design at Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, under the late Eliel Saarinen.

At present he holds registration certificates in the District of Columbia, Indiana, Ohio, Connecticut, and the Commonwealths of Virginia and Pennsylvania; and he is registered with the National Council of Architectural Boards. Among his completed projects are the Converse College Library, Spartanburg, N. C.; libraries at DePauw University and at Anderson College in Indiana; Kenyon College, Ohio; Randolph-Macon College, the Falls Church Public Library, the main libraries and several branches of the Fairfax County and Arlington County library systems in Virginia.

Mr. Bailey has served as consultant on numerous library projects, among them several for Yale University, the library at Beloit College, and a rare book library for Washington Cathedral, Washington, D. C.

The local firm of Wiley and Miller, Inc. was hired by Mr. Bailey to assist in supervision of construction for the Elkhart Library.

Highlights of Library History

1868 Ladies' Library Association formed.
1874 First public reading room opened.
1901 Funds obtained from Andrew Carnegie to build a library.
1902 First Librarian, Marion Sparks, appointed.
1903 Library formally opened on the northeast corner of Second and High Streets, October 3
1921 First "book automobile."
1922 Library invited to take its car to the national meet in Detroit, a two-day trip.
1936 Interior remodeled.
1940 New charging desk and flooring in reading room.
1941 Hospital service begun.
1943 Music collection started.
1944 Board worked for county library.
1947 Children's room named the "Robin Hood Room."
1948 Board purchased a bookmobile.
1953 Fiftieth anniversary and announcement of the Martin Foundation's gift of a new building, October.
1957 New bookmobile purchased.
1961 Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new library, December 21.
1963 The library moved into its new building, March 5.
1963 The dedication of the new Elkhart Public Library, March 31.

The Board

Mrs. Audrey B. Russell, President
John D. Burt, Vice President
Mrs. Ross Martin, Secretary
Mary E. LaBour
William H. Nicholson
George A. White
W. M. Wright

Arthur Kellogg was vice president and chairman of the building committee until his death in 1962. Mrs. Howard Christner was also a member of the board at the time of the groundbreaking.

The Staff

Ruth Kellogg, Director
Mary Houseworth, Cataloger
JoAnn Sheley, Children's Librarian
Priscilla Webb, Reference Department
Eleanor Marquis, Reference Department
Magdalen Friesen, General Assistant
Kathryn Hobson, Circulation Desk
Marguerite Craig, Clerical Assistant
Ramona Lewis, Clerical Assistant
Mary Mitchell, Clerical Assistant
Lois Bileydi, Clerical Assistant
Isabelle Freeman, Bookmobile
Myron Freeman, Bookmobile
Isabelle Bender, Book Mender

Pages . . . Thomas Langdoc, Charlotte Flemming, Clark Miller, Lynne Harwood, Carolyn Roberts, Marcia Meiser, David Dumond

Head Librarians Since 1902

1902 Marion Sparks
1903 Katharine Sage
1905 Ella Corwin
1929 Flora Case
1947 Harriet Carter
1950 Ruth Kellogg

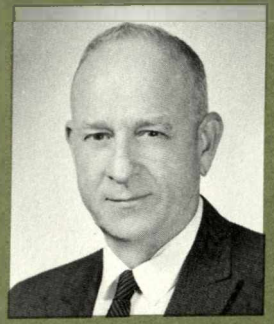
Ruth Kellogg

The Martin Foundation

Emeline Fairbanks Mem. Library

The Martin Foundation was established in 1953, for the promotion and support of religious, educational and charitable works. The construction of the Elkhart Public Library is the largest single project undertaken by the Foundation. Officers and members of the Martin Foundation are:

Ross Martin, President and Treasurer
Lee Martin, Vice President
Louis D. Stealy, Secretary
Esther Martin, Director
George S. Anderson, Director



Ross Martin

Lee Martin

Mrs. Ross Martin

Louis D. Stealy

George S. Anderson